

IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A breath freshening apparatus comprising:
a toothbrush having bristles and a reservoir containing mouthwash; and
an atomizer coupled to the reservoir and the bristles, actuation of the atomizer to result in a mist of the mouthwash being applied to the bristles.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the atomizer includes:
an induction tube having a first end disposed within the reservoir;
an atomizing pump coupled to a second end of the induction tube; and
a delivery tube disposed between the atomizing pump and the bristles.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the atomizing pump includes surfaces defining a metering chamber, a nozzle and a pressurization passageway extending between the metering chamber and the nozzle, the metering chamber to receive the mouthwash from the induction tube, the pressurization passageway to receive the mouthwash from the metering chamber and inject airborne particles of the mouthwash into the nozzle in response to actuation of the atomizer.
4. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the toothbrush and the atomizer pump have surfaces defining one or more priming passageways, the priming passageways to enable ambient air to enter the reservoir during actuation of the atomizer pump.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the reservoir has resilient sidewalls, lateral manipulation of the sidewalls to result in actuation of the atomizer.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the toothbrush includes:
a first housing coupled to the bristles; and
a second housing containing the reservoir, longitudinal manipulation of the housings relative to one another to result in actuation of the atomizer.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the housings have locking surfaces to selectively prevent actuation of the atomizer.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 further including a cap having an inboard end and an outboard end.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the cap further includes a cleaning ridge disposed within the cap, the cleaning ridge to remove excess mist from the bristles if the cap is coupled to the toothbrush over the bristles, the outboard end having surfaces defining evaporation apertures to enable the excess mist to evaporate.

10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein an outer surface of the cap has a striated area and a smooth area, the smooth area enabling display of a printed message.

11. A breath freshening apparatus comprising:

a cap having an inboard end, an outboard end and a cleaning ridge disposed within the cap;

a toothbrush having bristles and a reservoir containing mouthwash;

an induction tube having a first end disposed within the reservoir;

an atomizing pump coupled to a second end of the induction tube, the atomizing pump having surfaces defining a metering chamber, a nozzle and a pressurization passageway extending between the metering chamber and the nozzle, the metering chamber to receive the mouthwash from the induction tube, the pressurization passageway to receive the mouthwash from the metering chamber and inject airborne particles of the mouthwash into the nozzle in response to actuation of the atomizer pump; and

a delivery tube disposed between the atomizing pump and the bristles, the delivery tube to apply the airborne particles of the mouthwash to the bristles, the toothbrush and the atomizer pump having surfaces defining one or more priming passageways, the priming passageways to enable ambient air to enter the reservoir during actuation of the atomizer pump, the cleaning ridge to remove excess mist from the bristles if the cap is coupled to the toothbrush over the bristles.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the reservoir has resilient sidewalls, lateral manipulation of the sidewalls to result in the actuation of the atomizer pump.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the toothbrush includes:
a first housing coupled to the bristles; and
a second housing containing the reservoir, longitudinal manipulation of the housings relative to one another to result in the actuation.

14. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the housings have locking surfaces to selectively prevent the actuation.

15. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the outboard end of the cap has surfaces defining evaporation apertures to enable the excess mist to evaporate.